

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W

----- 014470

R 052045Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4922

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR FR PO

SUBJECT: GISCARD SPEAKS OUT (A LITTLE) ON SPAIN'S
POLITICAL EVOLUTION

1. FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING USED OPENING OF
REGIONAL EXHIBIT DEVOTED TO AQUITAINE TO REFER TO AREA'S
CLOSE TRADITIONAL RELATIONSHIP TO SPAIN AND TO MAKE
FIRST SHORT BUT SIGNIFICANT STATEMENT ON FRANCE'S ASPIRA-
TIONS FOR SPAIN'S FUTURE. SPECIFICALLY HE SAID THAT HE
HOPED THAT SPAIN'S "NECESSARY DEMOCRATIC EVOLUTION WILL
BRING HER CLOSER TO EUROPE AND TO FRANCE, WHO ARE READY
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TO SHOW HER FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING."

2. COMMENT: WE ARE STRUCK BY FACT THAT IN SEVERAL RECENT STATEMENTS GISCARD HAS ATTEMPTED TO SHED GAULLIST IMAGE OF BEING SUPPORTER OF CONSERVATISM ABROAD. HIS SHORT STATEMENT ON SPAIN GOES BEYOND ANYTHING HE HAS SAID ON PORTUGAL, WHERE FRENCH ARE EVEN LESS CERTAIN AS TO LIKELY OUTCOME OF POLITICAL FRAY. ON THE ONE HAND, STATEMENT ON SPAIN SEEMS CLEAR, IF MODEST, MESSAGE TO JUAN CARLOS AND OTHER SPANISH LISTENERS OF FRENCH INTEREST IN SPANISH POLITICAL EVOLUTION. ON THE OTHER HAND IT MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN INTENDED AS FIRST STEP IN EFFORT TO DEFUSE DOMESTIC CRITICISM OF GISCARD'S POSTURE VIS-A-VIS MADRID, WHICH IS POTENTIALLY STILL VERY STRONG.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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